

Mayflower RSVP, Inc. ~ 36 Cordage Park Circle #220 ~ Plymouth MA 02360

The Plymouth County Center for Volunteerism

Recruit, Train, Support, Celebrate volunteers!

JANUARY 2010 NEWS NOTES



Call RSVP for Calendar Details (508) 746-7787, Toll Free(877) 746-RSVP

January 13 Martin Luther King Day No school Brockton and Plymouth.

January 13 Annual Joint Breakfast Meeting, Community Services of Greater Brockton and the
8:30am Greater Plymouth Council of Human Services Agencies, Halifax Country Club, Halifax.

Military Family Portraits

RSVP volunteer. WW II veteran Al Solomon, a retired professional photographer, offers a free Military Family Portraits program to qualified Plymouth area residents. This free service is available, but not limited to, families of deployed military personnel. A portrait session would be scheduled at your convenience including weekends, at a Plymouth area location. A variety of pictures are taken and put onto a photo CD which then is sent to you, making it easy for you to send digital pictures to your loved one. Or have a portrait suitable for framing made or even greeting cards. For further information, email Al at milfamports@comcast.net or call him at 508 747-9937.



Al Solomon

Important Info about RSVP Volunteer TIMESHEETS!

We've reached the half-way point in our fiscal year! Volunteers who submit their individual Mayflower RSVP monthly Time Sheets are reminded to get their December and any outstanding since July, in to us no later than Jan. 10, 2010. Our funding sources are waiting for the semi-annual reports from Mayflower RSVP on the number of hours volunteers put in at various impact areas such as feeding the hungry, helping with environmental issues, reading with children, and many other categories. Accurate and timely hours' reporting is also vital to guarantee your continued insurance coverage and active membership in RSVP. Provided at no cost to all RSVP volunteers, the excess accident medical, excess automobile liability and volunteer liability coverage's are in effect as you travel to and from your volunteer assignment and while you are there. The Time Sheet is the validating document in the event of an accident. Be sure to get yours into RSVP today!

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Mayflower RSVP, Inc's Annual Appeal letter had barely gotten in the mail early in December when replies began to come in! We want to send thanks to our first responders: Jan Alsheimer, Vicki Fraser, HarborOne, John Kent, Ted Lang, Bruce Marquis, Al Rossow and Linda Rudnick. Also, Barbara Sawdye, Anne Smith, Jennifer Swinhart, Linda Tassinari, Bette Turner, Neila Walsh and Oliver Woodruff. Their donations totaled \$1,225, a great beginning to the appeal whose goal is \$5,000. RSVP continues to develop local support to offset the loss of Plymouth County's funding three years ago. Our challenge is compounded by the pinch of the economic downturn as are most non-profit agencies. We encourage everyone who received the appeal to be as generous as possible. And call us if by any chance you haven't received your Appeal letter! Mayflower RSVP is a 501 (c) 3 corporation; all donations are tax deductible.

Volunteer Position Updating begins this month!

Recruitment is an ongoing part of RSVP's services to our agency partners. Beginning this month, Field Coordinator Susan O'Neal will be contacting all volunteer supervisors to update their Volunteer Opportunities and get the most up-to-date information on where volunteers are needed and the various duties they will be asked to take part in. The information is submitted to several internet volunteer search engines by RSVP volunteer Marion Solomon. The success rate varies, but those with very clear descriptions receive the most responses. It's all in the detail so be ready for your call!



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*RSVP mobilizes Volunteer Service Activities that get things done for local communities.
 Visionary Volunteering - Limited only by your Imagination*

Memoirs Class

Jan Alsheimer, Plymouth resident, school department retiree, RSVP reading partner trainer and successful author of two books has somehow managed to squeeze in time to share her writing talent with RSVP volunteers in a class titled "From Memory to Memoir; Personal Narrative Writing"! The class has met six times over the last few months with participants very excited with the project. "It's fantastic that Jan is so caring to give her time so that we have direction and further training in how to write about our memories. It has made a big difference for me," said class member and RSVP volunteer Mary Ellen King. Jan is a retired Plymouth Public School Reading Specialist and an award winning author of 2 books. She is currently writing her third book with co-author and sister, Patricia Friedle. The novels, "Trouble with Tea" and "Path to Punishment" are historical fiction set in the pre-Revolutionary War. "Path to Punishment" has won several book awards including the Eric Hoffer Award, the Moonbeam Children's Book Award and a national placement in the Indie Excellence Awards. We thank Jan for so generously finding time for the Memoirs classes and wish both she and Patricia well as they embark on book number three.

Photo, top, Volunteer Lois Mirsky (left) receives some one-on-one help from Jan Alsheimer. Bottom photo: The class Lois; Mary Ellen King (far left); Betty Clough and Penny Clough listen as Jan explains a point. (Photos by Al Solomon)



Thank You Food Drive Volunteers

Thank you to volunteers willing to brave the cold to help with the Greater Plymouth Food Warehouse's Food Drive on Sat., Dec. 12. RSVP volunteers staffed both the Market at Pine Hills and the Kingston Stop & Shop. Proceeds from all sites raised \$3,200 and 5,546 pounds of food! While the air temperature was low, donor hearts were warm and generous. "Look at what that little one gave!", Ray Scott exclaimed after a cash donor's youngster chimed in asking if he could give his five dollar bill along with Dad's gift. Thank you for giving your time out-of-doors on a really chilly day to RSVP Volunteers Rose May and Ray Scott; Mary Ellen Anastasia; Barbara Wojtkiewicz; Pam Loewy; Mary Anne Welsh and Joan Thompson. Also, Jane Condon; Marion Galvin; Molly Powers; Joan Harper; Jin Chun; Suzan Winfrey; Paula Darsch and Ed Powers and friend.

Pictured Left are RSVP Volunteers Rose and Ray Scott and Paula Darsch braving the cold at The Market. Right Ray Scott accepts a food donation from a young shopper. Photos courtesy of The Old Colony Memorial.

